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HOWARD W. SMITH, President and
Treasurer
WILLIAM A. SMOOT, Vice-President
MICHAEL T. DWYER, Editor

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THE RICHMOND HORROR

An editorial in the Gazette of Monday called attention to the fact that Tuesday, April 27, was the fiftieth anniversary of what is known as the Richmond disaster, when many persons were killed by the fall of a crowded gallery, which carried away the floor of the House of Delegates. We could not at the time give the number killed and injured by this horror, but merely recalled the death of T. A. Brewis and the serious injury sustained by the late George W. Brent. The Richmond Times-Dispatch in its clippings from its files of half a century ago has reproduced the following:

"Yesterday occurred the greatest calamity that ever afflicted this city save the burning of the theater in 1811. It was occasioned by the falling in of the floor of the old Senate Chamber, in the Capitol, which is now used for the sessions of the Supreme Court of Appeals of the State. Eleven o'clock was the hour for the meeting of the court, and, it being understood that there would be announced the decision upon the question of the constitutionality of the enabling act—otherwise known as the Chahoon-Ellyson case (a contest for the Mayorality) which has excited so much interest in this community—a large number of citizens assembled in the gallery and the space in front of the bench before the hour appointed. The weight of such a packed mass was too great for the imperfectly constructed flooring and yet more faulty gallery, which was suspended from the upper joists in a most defective manner. The gallery first fell forward, the floor yielding instantly and going down with it, carrying the packed body of men to the floor of the House of Delegates, fully twenty feet below. As fearful and fatal as this was, the heavy ceiling and the timbers which supported it descended along with the mass, greatly increasing the mortality. Fifty-six were killed outright and others may die from injuries received. Had the catastrophe occurred ten minutes earlier possibly half the members of the House of Delegates would have been killed by the falling of the mass upon them, for a caucus of the great majority of the body had adjourned probably not ten minutes before the occurrence; or had the hour for the meeting of the court been 12 instead of 11 o'clock, a like destruction of life would have taken place, for the Legislature would then have been in session."

THE BLESSING OF CONTENTMENT

The instinct of contentment is an heavenly blessing, but probably one of the most difficult of all our duties. The contented man is a happy specimen of the genus homo, but Diogenes with the aid of his lamp might find it hard to find such.

One of the most pointed injunctions of holy writ is summed up in two words: "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have."

THE SANDY SPRING TRAGEDY

Francis M. Hallowell, who was shot and killed by a bank robber at Sandy Spring, Md., last Monday afternoon, was of an Alexandria family, one well-known in bygone years. He was a son of Henry Hallowell, and a grandson of Benjamin Hallowell, who many years ago conducted a boys' school on Washington street, between Cameron and Queen. His mother was a daughter of the late Robert H. Miller, who for many years conducted the chinaware business in a building which stood upon the site of the present Gazette building, on the north side of King street, between Fairfax and Royal. Members of the Hallowell and Miller families removed to Montgomery county, Md., many years ago, but they often visit their old home city, where they have many relatives and friends.

Francis M. Hallowell was a man of powerful physique, and there is every reason to believe that his purpose was to grapple with the bandit, in which event the latter would surely have come out second-best. But the robber and murderer had no intention of taking chances with him, and discharged his pistol before Mr. Hallowell could seize him.

Bank robbers make close studies before they precipitate their drives. No doubt they had sized up each person connected with the institution at Sandy Spring. They had taken Mr. Hallowell's measure, and knew he was the only man likely to give them trouble. Hence he was dispatched at the beginning, and battered un-

mercifully with the butt of a revolver until assured he was dead.

Several suspects have been arrested, but, so far, the fiends have not been identified.

BREAD FAMINE SPECTRE

An article in this column a week or more ago directed attention to the fact that most of the bread consumed in Alexandria is manufactured in Washington. The staff of life is brought to this city in auto trucks and wagons long before the stars are out of the sky and placed in boxes in front of stores. Later housekeepers procure their daily bread.

Washington papers tell us a bread famine may result in the capital city as the result of a strike which seems to be imminent. Such a movement is likely to bring distress to Alexandrians as well, as many people living in this city at this time are engaged in light housekeeping and not having baking facilities, are dependent upon the public bakeries. Of course, those possessing such facilities can bake their own bread, and experience but little inconvenience.

Washington and Alexandria families face two alternative crisis in the food situation as a result of the demands of the Journeymen Bakers' Union for increased wages. If the bakers vote to strike Saturday night, the prospect of a breadless city is presented, while if their employers meet the demands of the men a further increase in the price of bread is regarded as inevitable.

A mass meeting of the union bakers will be held Saturday night for the purpose of recording a vote on the concession offered last week by the master bakers. This concession involved a 25 per cent raise in wages and continuation of the present 8-hour day.

The employees are holding out for a 7-12 hour day at the rate of \$1 an hour, in lieu of the 64 cents an hour now paid the men. The compromise suggested by the master bakers would increase the present wage to 80 cents an hour.

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One of the most pointed injunctions of holy writ is summed up in two words: "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have."

But in these days of the high cost of living and the thousand and one demands upon the exchequer of those whose incomes are not commensurate with the age, well-disposed people are inclined to look with extenuation upon those who make mistakes—weak individuals who fail to keep inviolate the heavenly suggestion given above.

Judge Kenesaw M. Landis pointed an example in low wages paid by the government in Chicago yesterday when Allen E. Carlisle, a postoffice clerk, was arraigned for stealing diamonds valued at \$1,100 from the mails.

Turning to the spectators, the judge said: "Look at this man. He has two children to support. He works from 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon until 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning, and all he is paid by the government is \$1,200 a year."

"I suppose I will have to send him to prison, but he has been working like a slave and getting only half of what he would get as private secretary to a hodecarrier."

Carlisle pleaded guilty.

DENOUNCE "LILY WHITES"

Colored Republicans Protest Measures Used by State Convention and Elect Own Delegates

Raleigh, N. C., April 29.—North Carolina Republican negroes will carry their fight for participation in the party councils to the national convention at Chicago, it was determined at the negro Republican State convention here yesterday, when delegates to the Chicago convention were elected.

A hundred or more delegates from the ten congressional districts in the State attended the convention and enthusiastically adopted resolutions protesting against the "lily white" element in the party.

The convention refused to submit questionnaires to candidates for various State offices, but expressed in resolutions the need of effective political activity with fullness of ballot, equality, under the law, equal pay for equal work, the abolition of the "Jim Crow" spirit in American institutions, and a Federal law against lynchings. In addition, the resolutions denounced the "lily white" element in the Republican party in the State and the alleged efforts of John J. Parker, Republican candidate for Governor, to read them out of the party.

MINERS REJECT OFFERS

Negotiations at New York Deadlocked By Action of Workers
New York, April 29.—Representatives of the anthracite mine workers

have notified the operators that their counteroffer of a wage increase approximately 15 per cent has been rejected and declined to accept their proposal for arbitration, according to a statement issued here last night by the subcommittee appointed to negotiate a new wage agreement for the hard-coal workers.

The plan of arbitration submitted by the mine owners, it was learned, proposed that the subcommittee ask President Wilson to name three individuals representing the public to sit in with the committee and attempt to arbitrate the difference.

The presentation of the miners' reply resulted in the negotiations going into a deadlock. Neither side attempted to moderate their stand. The operators, however, asked that the committee take an adjournment until today at 12:30 o'clock.

"OVERALL COPS"

Mills Plans Denim Uniforms for City Guardians

Philadelphia, April 29.—Philadelphia will be the first large city to boast of "the overall cop," if plans under consideration by Superintendent of Police William B. Mills turn out successfully.

The advantage of a uniform made of dark blue denim has been demonstrated to the Superintendent, he said yesterday. Sergeant Malcolm MacDonald, of the Mounted Traffic Department, performed the services as model for the new uniform.

Superintendent Mills declared he was well pleased with the denim uniform, the fact that it can be obtained for less than half the price of the present outfits.

As an experiment, the head of the police said, uniforms of denim will be ordered for the members of the Mounted Traffic, Traffic and Reserve squads. If sufficient material can be obtained these branches of the Police Bureau, which include approximately 500 men, will be on the pioneers among policemen in the overall movement to combat the high cost of living. They will wear the uniform this summer.

Superintendent Mills also said yesterday a steel booth which had been invented by members of the Traffic squad will be brought in use the coming winter. These structures, which are collapsible and portable, are designed for the protection of policemen regulating traffic in the centre of the city.

One of the largest gold nuggets ever found, weighing 151 pounds, was uncovered by a man digging a grave for a friend.

For the Benefit of All Our
Patrons and Friends We Are

CLEARING OUT ALL OUR SPRING SUITS at extraordinary reductions



These suits are the cream of the spring market and have been in our store only a short time. They are not special purchases for the purpose of putting them on sale at reductions but are taken from our regular stock. They are of the finest of materials and workmanship to be found anywhere and the prices are lower than those in the exclusive cash stores.

Included in this lot of fine garments are those that at the beginning of the season brought as high as \$79.50 and graded down to \$39.50.

However, we must get them out of our store to make room for new shipments that are arriving continually and we intend to give our customers the benefit of this necessity.

They are Now Priced
\$29.50, \$39.50, \$49.50

And here is our plan of payments—

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only comes when you're comfortably settled in a home of your own.

Here's an opportunity for complete satisfaction.

Six room brick with pressed brick front, bath, dry cellar, range and latrines installed, newly papered and painted. Immediate possession. Price and terms right. Located in 1000 block on Duke Street.

Richard L. Ruffner.
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They Come Clean

It's not only the cleanliness and care which we devote to your clothes that make our helpfulness to you so important. It is also the removal of the burden of wash days—the lightening of your work and worry and the solving of the problem of keeping contented and competent maids.

Alexandria Laundry, Inc.

For Sale

The property listed below is all quite desirable and can be purchased on reasonable terms.

Brick store and dwelling with nice lot, about 1-5 acre, on Duke street extended, near city limits. Price \$3000.

Two story brick dwelling, ten rooms hot air furnace. Good neighborhood on Duke street, between St. Asaph and Pitt streets. Price \$5500.

Two story brick dwelling, 11 rooms and bath. Large side lot, space for building several dwellings. In Price street. A good speculative purchase. Price \$10,000.

Brick dwelling with 25 feet front, King street, central section of city. Readily convertible into store. Price \$9,500.

Two modern brick dwellings in 600 block South Fairfax street, quite near shipyard. Price \$3,500 each.

Three story brick store and dwelling, South Fairfax, near King street, in busy neighborhood. Price \$5500.

Two good frame dwellings in 500 block South Patrick street. Buildings in good condition with excellent tenants. Price \$1500 each.

Laurence Stabler

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They use the greatest care and skill. And promptly all their orders fill.

—Dainty Dorothy.
Dressing robes or gowns of delicate fabric are cleansed by us without damaging the material.

We invite the most critical inspection of our work.

Our on time steaming and pressing appeal to men.

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No milk is safe for human consumption unless it is pasteurized. Health Officers know this. Statistics from all over the country prove it.

Beginning May 1st. The summer prices will be as follows:

MILK		CREAM	
Quarts	15c	Quarts	64c
Pints	8c	Pints	32c
1-2 Pint	5c	1-2 Pint	16c
		Gills	9c

BUTTERMILK	
Quarts	15c; Pints 8c

Operating under supervision of local health department.

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Two deliveries daily

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